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PIKESTAFF

INT 377/1

The leading Italian Trade Union Federation, the CGIL, is controlled by communists although the majority of its 6,500,000 members are not Communists. Unlike France, there is as yet in Italy no effective opposition or competing trade union federation. The Christian Democrat's labor elements under the leadership of Pastore have broken from the CGIL but the Right Wing Socialists under Saragat are wavering with the majority, believing that they should remain in the CGIL. Communist control of the CGIL must be broken or the De Gasperi Government will remain at the mercy of political strikes and the ECA investment will be gravely jeopardized.

Plan and Implementation

FTUC in Italy

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It is anticipated that a trade union federation will be created in opposition to the CGIL and that it will be known as a Catholic Federation of Trade Unionists. At the same time it is contemplated that the support of Gedda, the Italian head of the Civic Federation, will be enlisted to back Pastore.

As action on this plan is a matter of urgency, full details regarding operations are not here submitted. They will be provided at an early date.

APPROVED.

George F. Kennan
George F. Kennan

RECEIVED
FEB 28 1951

October 14, 1948

HISTORICAL DOCUMENT

Destroy only with consent of the Historical Staff

Name: D. P. [unclear]
Date: 4 Nov 62

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